Gate Modification; It's a Reality!

ou've heard, perhaps too often, that it was coming. Now it's here. By the time you are reading these words work will already have begun at both the north and south gates to install the new gate access equipment. The process will be completed in a few days. Total cost of equipment and installation is \$24,000.

The gates will be in operation most of the time work is in progress, but drivers must use caution in the gate area where installers from Ace Specialties, Inc. will be at work. At least one traffic lane will be available at all times.

During construction and until August 1 the personal code and the transmitters you now have will continue to operate the gates just as they have done. Seven to ten days before the day on which you must use a new personal code you will receive that number in the mail along with notice of the date the new code will be activated.

Until that date, use the code you have now.

There will be no change in the transmitters now in use. They will continue to activate the gates even after you start using the new personal code.

When work is completed the new entry systems at both gates will be identical. Besides upgrading to use current technology we will have directories at both gates that permit phone contact with you by your guests. Directory use is described on page 4 of your Owners' Information Guide. This equipment will also permit us to quickly add codes for new members and delete personal codes no longer in use.

New codes are also being issued to contractors and vendors; they will be changed about every six months. These steps will reduce the likelihood of persons having codes who no longer have a reason to have access to our neighborhood. We will also have installed sensors that will make the gate operation much safer.



comments, letters to the editor, or anything fit to print. Don't hesitate -

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shoot the Breeze!

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vol. VIII, no. 4
july 2002
Surf Pines Association
Newsletter
for all members



Association Annual Meeting

ithin the next couple of weeks, members will receive the annual meeting mailing, including last year's meeting minutes, the financial statement for the year just ended, the proposed 2002-3 budget, a suggested amendment to the bylaws, and a ballot and proxy statement for the election of one board member.

The annual meeting is your chance to compare notes on Surf Pines affairs with many of your neighbors and fellow property owners. Your questions, concerns, and ideas can be discussed directly. Not only does the board welcome them but participation of members is vital to proper administration of the community. So be sure to reserve the morning of August 3, starting at 10 a.m. to come to the meeting at the Astoria Golf and Country Club.

A reminder: to cast a valid ballot your dues payments must be current, including any late-payment charges or outstanding special assessments.

Last year members voted to reduce the size of the board to five members, so there is only one director to be elected, to replace Bob Chopping, whose term ends. The nominating committee hopes to present at least two candidates, if two willing members can be found. It is not always easy to persuade people that helping to run association affairs is a worthwhile use of their time. Yet without that active involvement the community cannot function. If you are interested in serving either on the board or on a committee, please contact Ralph Todd.

Annual Picnic

Il association members are well come to come to the annual potluck picnic after the meeting on August 3. It will be held on the park property, starting at 3:30 p.m. Bring family members, your choice of food and beverage, and meet and mingle with neighbors. The community affairs committee will arrange tables and seating and barbecue facilities and will provide soft drinks, flatware, plates and cups. All ages are welcome.

The picnic offers a chance to share your ideas about development of the park as well as to get to know more Surf Piners. The committee is negotiating with the weather gods to ensure a wonderful, sunny afternoon with gentle breezes and ideal temperature. For more information or to offer your help, contact Norma Keever at 738-5069.



Association News

New Beach Path

A new public beach access path has been created near the south end of Ocean Drive, thanks to an easement granted to the association by the Hendersons and Hansons.

The path is located just south of 89078 Ocean Drive. You will recognize it from the new post that will soon mark it.

Road Work

Seasonal road repairs have started with work on the roadsides along Manion Drive. Last year a section was graveled to help prevent the edges of the pavement from breaking down. Currently, a total of three miles (both sides) is being cleared of vegetation and then "rocked" with gravel nine inches deep and a foot wide. Treatment of the roadway verges should prolong the life of the pavement.

Other projects scheduled for this season include filling some holes where needed, overlaying cracks, and patching a section at the north end of Manion.

Along with the road work residents may notice that the speed bumps are being repainted, a reminder to rein in those powerful horses while driving in Surf Pines where the 25 mph speed limit is designed to safeguard the residents, be they two- or four-legged.

Long Range Planning

Several years ago the board created a long range planning committee to try to anticipate future community needs before they become urgent problems. One of the perennial problems each board faces is the lack of an office where records can be stored. With each change of secretary it is necessary to transport upwards of 40 years of bulky records from one household to another. The only community-owned building is the gate house where our security personnel live. This structure, built in the late 1950s, served originally as a real estate office. It was never designed to be a residence. Nor was it built to withstand coastal weather for decades.

In short, if Surf Pines is to provide a decent, livable accommodation for Lynn and Pam Mevrick, it is urgent that the gate house be replaced. When Ken Buckingham retired, the house was cleaned and painted and some repairs were made. But the extensive amount of damp rot and mold that is eating away at the structure could not be cured. The board has concluded that a new gate house, with enough space to accommodate a couple and a garage large enough for a car, some office space, and storage room, is a necessity.

A preliminary plan has been drawn up by architect-member Loren Wohlgemuth. The board is exploring the most economically viable way to make the new gate house a reality without subjecting members to increased dues or additional assessments.

Since most residents are probably unfamiliar with the interior of the gate house, Pam and Lynn have agreed to hold an open house so that interested members can see for themselves the condition of the structure. They will welcome visitors on Saturday, July 13 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Fire Risk

W inter's rains have ended for this year. Already grass is drying, and though there may be showers and overcast skies, a serious threat of fire exists if people are careless about burning. The fires curreintly raging in Colorado over more than 100.000 acres should provide us ample warning of how easily we can lose control.

On Sunday, June 16, a couple on Ocean Drive started to burn some

accumulated tree debris. Thanks to a sharp southwest wind, smoke was soon billowing over Surf Pines. frightening many neighbors and visitors. The owners felt they had the fire under control and were using a hose to contain it. With the wind. however, it could easily have jumped to adjacent property.

Before lighting a fire from now throughout the summer, be sure to check with the Oregon Forestry Department. Do not burn when wind speed is over 10 mph. See p. 8 of the Owners' Information Guide for more on burning guidelines...and always follow them.



Park Progress

nene Bourquein of the park com mittee has submitted the following update on developments:

As per your responses to the neighborhood park survey, volunteer workers have been busy preparing the park grounds and they are now ready for your use. Clean-up of brush is complete, the grassy area has been reseeded and fertilized. The Surf Pines Roads and Grounds Committee and the homeowners' board have approved the subcommittee's layout plan for elements and placement of park equipment.

We now need financial support to complete the acquisition and installation of improvements requested by members of the association in the January survey. Thus far we have cash donations of \$350. Two of the top requests in the survey, picnic tables and horseshoe pads, have been contributed and installed. A four-bay swing set will cost about \$2000 and construction of a barbecue pad and grill will cost about \$500 for materials. A drinking fountain can be constructed for about \$200. Additional playground equipment requested in the survey responses will be considered in a second phase.

Please look for our table of fund raising ideas at the annual meeting on August 3. Tax deductible donations can now be made to Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Foundation, 1225 Ave. A, Seaside, OR 97138. Mark your contribution "for Surf Pines Park development". For more information contact Mary Blake at 738-3121 or at the district office, 738-7393.

The potluck picnic following the annual meeting on August 3 will be held in the park from 3:30 p.m. on (see p. 1). Walking tours, fund raising events and games will be available.

Last year's picnic in Surf Pines Park. Only 12 months later, bardworking Surf Pines volunteers bave made visible improvements.





